The Wellesley Prelude.

VOLUME II.—No. 14.

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JANUARY 10, 1891.

BROWN BROS., Publishers, 43 Lincoln Street, Boston.

A PLAN FOR THE ✝ NORUMBEGA ✝ FUND.

By A GRADUATE OF CLASS OF '86.

Health culture is the spirit of the age.

Garments *must* be Hygienic.

Any garment that confines the shoulders under short, rigid, *unelastic* straps, promotes stooping and tends to contract the chest—anything but hygienic!

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The originator of this plan is a Wellesley Graduate, class of '86. She will receive from the manufacturers a liberal percentage on the sale of every Corset under this plan, which percentage she will **donate to the Norumbega Fund.**

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Any reader of the PRELUDE, interested in the Norumbega Fund may order under this plan. Several readers may combine and order on *one coupon.*

Do *you* want to co-operate and help the Fund?

Send with the order $3.00 for each corset. Send Coupon with order invariably; write plainly name and address and size and length wanted. If on receipt the corset should not fit, return securely wrapped, and exchange will be made without further charge for delivery.

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Yours truly, A. H. HINMAN

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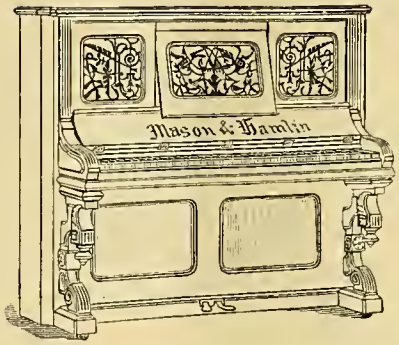

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Wholesale and Retail Cloak Manufacturers.

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Carriage Entrance. 10 and 12 BEDFORD STREET,

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HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE,

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THE WELLESLEY PRELUDE.

VOL. II. BOSTON, MASS., JANUARY 10, 1891. No. 14

The Wellesley Prelude.

Edited by the Students of Wellesley College and published weekly during the college year. Price, $2.00 a year, in advance. Single copies, 10 cents.

EDITORS:

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All literary communications from the students of the College should be sent to LITERARY EDITOR OF THE PRELUDE, through the PRELUDE box in the general office. Literary communications from outside the College should be directed to the Alumnæ Editor, Miss Charlotte F. Roberts, Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass.

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THE winter term, the time for the finest College work, is already upon us. The three weeks vacation seem now but the dream of a moment. We could hardly persuade ourselves that the dream was a reality were it not for some tangible proofs that the vacation has left us. Best Christmas gift of all is the feeling of exhiliration, the result of three happy busy weeks without a thought of care, which has replaced the tired indifference so naturally attending the close of the last term. The outlook for the new term is one of great promise. In the winter term the best work of the year is done. The fresh energy for renewed study asserts itself; the keen, frosty air does not let the edge of effort grow dull. After the recapitulation of last term's work in the reviews and examinations, a fresh beginning is made. The winter term is freer than either the fall or the spring terms. The element of newness, newness of friends, surroundings, and courses of study, which is a retarding influence to the former, has worn off. Each one has passed beyond the stage of "getting her bearings" and is ready to steer steadily in the right direction. On the other hand, the expectant attitude of the spring term, which is the beginning of the end, and the languid tendency of the season of the year, have not begun to divert our attention. Everything, then, is favorable to the finest, most scholarly work of the College year, and that student who supplements these favorable conditions for good work with the earnest resolve to make the best of them will find at Easter time that she has earned success.

Examinations are almost upon us, and as the Senior, who has been through it all many times before, and the heavy-scheduled Junior, the Sophomore, and the anxious Freshman, count up their five, six, and seven examination subjects, the old query returns with new force,—are examinations necessary? Is this test of knowledge and ability, after all only doubtful, really worth while? If a careful review of each subject were given, and the examination omitted, would not the benefit be just as great as at present? It is especially at examination time, when a student is experiencing that weariness to the flesh which accompanies much study, that these questions particularly appeal to her. In the article in this issue on "An Old Story," one answer is given, which may be the opinion of others as well as of the writer.

Every student who considers the fact that for two hundred of the trunks which were transported last June from the College to the station, Mr. Bailey never received pay, will sympathize with him in his effort to protect himself from the carelessness of students in attending to the matter. The plan of pasting a previously purchased coupon on each

trunk which is to be carried to the station is an efficient settlement of the difficulty. The students appreciate this fact and gladly accept the change. But when they find that one change is accompanied by another, and by one which seems entirely uncalled for, and moreover, unjust, the expression of indignation becomes universal. There seems to be no reason whatever for the raising of the charge for the transportation of one person with a trunk, to the station, from twenty-five to thirty-five cents. The former price was reasonable, and the change cannot be accepted quietly. Since there is no other means of transportation here except Mr. Bailey's express, it is quite evident that the opportunity is presented to him to take advantage of this fact.

The complaint is often made that students who do not happen to have tickets with them in the coach are compelled to pay twenty cents instead of being allowed to hand the ticket to the driver at another time. Here, of course, responsibility rests with the students to see that they are always provided with tickets, or that, if it should ever occur that they wish to ride when they have no ticket, as is sometimes unavoidable, they are careful to pay it as soon as possible. On the other hand, the proprietor who receives so much patronage from one community of people should certainly show his patrons courtesy, and strive to accommodate them in every way which lies in his power. The trusting of students who are riding back and forth continually, for an occasional ticket, instead of compelling them to pay double fare, is not too much to expect.

It is a question in the minds of many if twenty cents is not too much to charge strangers for the short ride. Their own opinion is shown in the surprise often manifested on paying the charge. To pay twenty cents for a ride of less than a mile in an omnibus is an unusual price. The fare to South Natick, is the same as to the College, and the distance is twice as great. What is the basis of such an arrangement? Ten cents, for strangers as well as students, would be a much more reasonable charge.

Still one more point remains wherein greater accommodation to the students could be secured. This concerns students in the village, who, if they do not live on Washington street, must walk some distance in stormy weather before they are able to take the coach. It would be a great convenience to many if the coach, especially on wet days, passed through Waban street and a part of Cottage street, at least, where most of the boarding-houses are located. If, therefore, more accommodation in these matters were afforded the students, and if they, in turn, rendered themselves less liable to the charge of carelessness, the satisfaction of both sides would result.

PROTECTION.

Not Protection versus Free Trade, but protection versus destruction of bird-life.

The life of a bird is beset by many difficulties and dangers. The smaller varieties are preyed upon by some of the monsters of their own kind. After the wise and careful little mother has built her exquisite nest and begun to lay, a stealthy snake or weasel or squirrel may come and suck her precious eggs. Or a dark, strange egg may one day appear in her nest, and, after hatching, the overgrown nestling of a cow-bird may crowd out the rightful occupants.

In their first attempts at flight many birds fall an easy prey to cats and dogs. Such are some of the dangers which make the life of even the "light-hearted birds" not wholly safe and care-free.

It is said that birds nest more freely near settlements or traveled roads than in deep and trackless forests; the reason being that man kills or frightens away their natural enemies. But alas! with shame be it said, this confidence in human nature is sometimes misplaced, and man himself who should be the protector, becomes the enemy of his feathered friends.

The reasons why a bird's life should be held sacred are reasons of use and reasons of beauty. It is the merest truism to say that the insectivorous birds are worth their weight in gold to the farmer and gardener. You have caught Cock Robin stealing strawberries and cherries? Very likely; but that same robin has fed his nestful of gaping young mouths with hundreds of plump furry caterpillars which were threatening your orchard with destruction. And no one can compute how many seeds of noxious weeds that sweet-voiced, black-capped, gold-finch has eaten in a summer.

But even granting that some grain and small

fruits are lost, is it too large a price to pay for all that the birds contribute to the gentler pleasures of life? Who would not share, if need be, his last crust with the stout-hearted chickadee, or pay some toll of cherries for that hearty chorus of robins and thrushes which ushers in the day and draws the curtain of the night?

Even the birds which have no conspicuous song yet "sing to the eye" with the delicacy or brilliancy of their coloring, and the wonderful grace of their flight. They give a touch of life and color and motion to the dullest landscape and a sense of companionship to the dreariest road.

Do not trust the proverb that "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." Even for scientific purposes the bush must be studied as well as the bird; that is, his environment, his "feuds, affections and confederacies:" his haunts, his courtship, his domestic economy, his food and ways of obtaining it; above all his song as an index of the temper and disposition of his soul.

All these reflections on the worth of a bird are by way of preface to a plea for protection of bird-life against the demands of fashion. To be sure some of the so-called birds on the milliners' counters are malformations, like no bird that ever was on land or sea. Such monstrosities formed by the hand of man need not much trouble one's conscience unless one believes in the ethics of taste.

A circular of the Audubon Society published a few years ago, has recently been brought again to the notice of the public by a writer in the *Boston Transcript*. That report says: "From carefully gathered statistics it is proved that on the most moderate calculation 5,000,000 song birds are annually required to fill the demand for the ornamentation of the hats of American women. In one month 1,000,000 bobolinks have been killed near Philadelphia, and from a single Long Island village 70,000 song birds were supplied in a short time to New York dealers for millinery purposes." There is much more to the same purport, but need we quote farther? *A million bobolinks*. Is there such overplus of sweetness in the world that we can afford to squander it recklessly?

Think of the extravagance of three hummingbirds on one hat! Only eighty-seven cents apiece do you say? But remember that in that tiny nest barely an inch across, never more than two nestlings are reared to inherit the family jewels.

The new year is a time for good resolutions. Let one of them be that as women of intelligence and taste, we will not encourage this traffic in birds by wearing any borrowed feathers save those of the ostrich which can be taken without harm, or those of domestic fowls whose race is carefully guarded from extinction.

A. C. Chapin.

A LITTLE GESTE OF '94.

CAST OF CHARACTERS.

Changeiling Child,		'94.
Good Fays.	Clover Blossom,	'92.
	Fern Seed,	'91.
	Heliotrope,	'90.
	Pansy,	'93.
Pantaloon,		*The Faculty.*
Clown,		*Exams.*
Imps.	Red Imp,	*Gyms.*
	Green Imp,	*Mathematics.*
	Heliotrope Imp,	*Chemistry.*
	White and Gold Imp,	*Elocution.*
Ariel,		*Spirit of the Institution.*
Harlequin,		*Matriculation.*

Thomas The Rhymer.

CANTO I.

It fell aboon the Lammas tide,
When ae on every hand
The yellow corn was stackèd, e'en
To the borders of Fairy land,

As I was walkin' all alane
Between a water and a wa',
There I spied a wee, wee maid,
The least that e'er I saw.

She wandered o'er the lily lea
Wi' heart as light as air,
She dancèd thro' the yellow corn
And plucked the flowers fair.

She had na' plucked a blow, a blow,
A blow but barely ane,
And over the borders of elfin land
Wi' her tripping feet she's gane.

Nae sooner past she the border land,
Jennifer gentle and rosemaree,

Than an elfin sprite came to her hand,
As the dew flies over the mulberry tree.

He hadna' danced a step, a step,
A step but barely three,
Until she spied his fairy form
And she laughed right merrilee.

"O haud you now o' your laughing," he says,
"O' your laughing now let me be—
I'll e'en show you how the lillies blow
On the banks o' Welles lea.

"But maidie, ye maun haud your tongue
Whatever ye may hear or see,
For if ye speak word in Elfinland
Ye'll ne'er win back to your ain countree."

"O, wee, wee man, sea jimp and sma',
O tell me where thy dwelling be,
For I wad sip o' the honey dew
Gin I might dance like thee."

[Tableau—Song, "Where the bee sucks."]

"Gin ye would dance sae light and free
A kiss ye'll gie to me,
And for ae kiss, a year ye'll stay
Awa' frae your ain countree.

"I daur ye, I double daur ye," he cried
"*Ane* kiss to gie to me—."
"I never tak' a daur," she cried,
"I'll give ye *ane* and *three*."

She's catched him by his gauzy wings,
She's turnèd him about;
The wrath that made his forehead frown
Was feigned, I make no doubt.

Oh first she kissed his cherry cheeks
And syne she kissed his chin
And sair she kissed his bonny lips
And he vanished from her ken.

There came a wind out of the north
A sharp wind and a snell
And a dead sleep came over her
And on the corn she fell.

Song—["I know a bank whereon the wild thyme grows."]

CANTO II.

Enter Fays, dancing.

Now Clover Blossom her espied
As sleeping there she lay,
And callèd to the fairies a'
To come, and cease their play.

Then spake she to the Pansy Flower,
She is like thee bedight,
She must na' stay a mortal child,
She is too fair a sight.

"I canna' look on that bonny face
As it lies on the grass,
Wi'out the thought how our fair Queen
Would love her well, I guess."

[Tableau—Fairy Song.]

While they stood and gazed at her,
The twae and twae thegither,
There opened wide the bonny e'en,
And looked from t'ane to t'ither.

"O whaur is my bonny playfellow
Wi' the wings o' sheeny gauze,
While I dreamed this day has he gane away
To the land where the north wind blaws?"

"Come ben, come ben, ye canny wee thing,
Come gang alang wi' we,
We'll tak' ye to our Elfin Queen,
Your playfellow to see."

She had na' smole a smile, a smile,
A smile but barely three,
When she did spy a drumly dwarf,
And she wept right bitterlee.

"Gin ye will answer me questions ten,
Woe, woe, hey, diddle do,
Ye shall ne'er again see mortal men,
Woe, woe, hey, diddle do."

"Now haud your tongue o' your questions ten,
Jennifer gentle and rosemaree,
Ye shall na' skee her, frae our ken
As the dew flies over the mulberry tree."

Exeunt.

[Song—"Under the Greenwood Tree."]

CANTO III.

Now Pantaloon, and impies five
Are come amid the corn,
As mischief-loving set are they
As ever yet was born.

Quoth Pantaloon "Our Queen is daft
Aboon a mortal child,
The which the skeely Ariel
Amang us ha'e beguiled.

"They wis from out this changeling child,
An eerie elf to make;
The stately Queen her word ha'e gi'en
For true Thomas, his sake.

But we will mak' her life sae sair
That she will wearied be;
She'll wish she had na' gane awa'
Awa' frae her ain countree."

Then Clown, who foretime frightened her,
Spake up in impish wise,
"We'll rede her riddles sair and hard,
Till frae us far she flies.

"The heaviest weird we will her rede
That ever was read to gay ladye,
I weird she be a dullard dunce
And borrowed shall she never be.

"Till Harlequin the Queenis knight,
Shall come and gi'e the wings to she,
Until the ending of the term,
Borrowed shall she never be."

Wi' 'at they clappit up their heels,
And pranced aboon the corn,—
Then skittled off, to east and west,
Afore the peep o' dawn.

CANTO IV.

[Song—"He was a Little Tin Soldier."

She came frae east, he came frae west,
They met amid the corn,
He was a bonny Harlequin,
She was a mortal born.

He had a rose into his hand,
He gave it kisses three,
He gave it in the maidie's hand,
And louted on his knee.

Now Harlequin his Claith was pied,
Fine flowers in the valley,
"Oh, Maidie, will ye be my bride,
Wi' the red, green, and the yellow?"

"Oh ye maun ask the stately Queen,
Fine flowers i' the valley,
Likewise the fairies dressed in green,
And heliotrope and pink and yellow.

"And ye maun ask the drumly dwarf,
Binnorie, oh, binnorie,
And not forget dear Ariel
Binnorie, oh, binnorie."

Wi' that he vanished frae her sight,
In the twinkling of an eye,
And naething mair, the maidie saw
But the gloomy clouds and sky.

[Song—Punchinello."]

CANTO V.

Now when the impies saw that she
Was left amid the corn,
They kenned the time was ripe for them
To work the maidie wrong.

O hooly, hooly raised they up,
And crept from out the vine,
And hooly, hooly gan they then,
Wi' spells her to entwine.

Then felt she like a dullard dunce,
Through vapored mist she could na' see;
The mair she thinkt on Harlequin,
O mickle dolour did she dree.

The impies dancèd her around,
Wi' a link, a down, and a day,
Wi' many a laugh and impish sound,
Wi' a link, a down, and a day.

And Pantaloon, on a toady stool,
Did cheer them on their play
And kickit up his heels frae joy,
Wi' a link, a down, and a day.

And Clown creeped up behind of her,
And wi' a gruesome grin,
He toddled his arms around of her,
And held her fast within.

He hinched her, he pinched her,
He made her ears smart,

" If ever we catch him,
We'll chop out his heart
Um, um, chop out his heart."

The goblin in green first angled out,
Triangles, scalene, isosceles,
The game was his, he made no doubt,
Triangles, scalene, isosceles.

" O hey, how mony small pennies
Mak' thrice three thousand pound?
O hey how mony small fishes
Swim a' the saut sea round?

" O what is higher nor the tree?
Triangles, scalene, isosceles,
And what is deeper nor the sea?
Triangles, scalene, isosceles."

" Come ben, come ben, ye cannot skee me,
Triangles, scalene, isosceles,
The answer to all is infinitee,
Triangles, scalene, isosceles." .

Heliotrope impie with eyes aflame,
Non-combustible H_2O,
Dashing and flashing before her came,
Elements compounds and mixtures oh.

" O what is heavier nor the lead?
Rede me that riddle if ye can."
" I trow it is the wheaten bread,
That ye were fed on elfish man."

" Sin ye're so brave o' your tongue," he said,
" Give me the chemical formulae
Of what babes like you should eat wi' bread,
White milk,—I've catched ye now, he, he."

Now heliotrope fairy, with kind intent,
Seeing the maid in so sair a plight,
'Gan motioning to her in friendly wise,
O' the answer to gie her light.

" Ye need na' be making motions at me,
Heliotrope fairy, sae wan and pale,
Ye may ken that I be mortal born,
I can e'en take care of mysel'.

" The answer to that is plenty of chalk,
With non-combustible H_2O,
The just proportions the milkmaids ken,
Who are up in mixtures and compounds, Oh.

As soon as she these words did name,
Jennifer gentle, and rosemaree,
He combusted into a Bunsen flame,
As the dew flies over the mulberry tree.

The nextie impie he marchèd out,
Arméd in dumb-bells, yclad in red,
And brandished about, wi' whoop and shout,
His warlike weapons aboon her head.

* * * * * * *

" Gie us, oh gie us a man,
Whae aye sings at his wark,"
But Maidie answered never a word,
She was frighted stiff and stark.

CANTO VI.

[Song—" Oh wert thou in the cold blast. "]

Then Harlequin's heart was stricken sore,
To see his Maidie's fright
And awa' frae out the corn he tore
To aid her in her plight.

" Put on, put on, my wichty fays,
As fast as ye can dri'e,
For he that is hindmost of the thrang,
Shall ne'er get gude o' me."

They skittled and scuttled to right and left,
They never stopped nor staid,
As the Queenis knight, in armor bright,
Hae borrowed the mortal maid.

He hae torn the mask frae off his face,
A little abune the chin,
And fast he saw her color come,
And sweet she smiled on him.

O she is now a truly fay,
This ladye o' his lance,
Wi' wingis bright she is bedight,
Right gaily can she dance.

She's tirled on her little toe,
She's skimmered like the sun,
She's laughed to see how like a fay,
Wi' wingis she is bedone.

" Ye need na' ask the stately Queen,
Fine flowers i' the valley,
Nor yet the fairies dressed in green,
And heliotrope and pink and yellow.

" Ye need na' ask the drumly dwarf,
Nor yet the tiny Ariel,
Ye need na' ask nae naebody,
I'll luve ye, fur your ain dear sel."

Finis.

AN OLD STORY.

"There is no new thing under the sun,"—this is a well-known and oft-proved fact. Everything that is said or thought about anything has been said or thought ever so many times before; and even old friends with new faces have the same old faces, if we only take the trouble to stare at them hard. Examinations are no exception to the rule. Everything that has been said or thought about them has been said or thought many times already, and still examinations hold sway, and still the "reign of terror" brings forth its victims to perish.

Old stories, especially dreary old stories, are seldom welcomed, and least of all, perhaps, when Christmas has left all hearts glad, and the New Year bells have rung out inspiration for the year to come; yet it is just at the time when the Christmas joy has come and the New Year bells have rung, that Wellesley must prepare to greet her old friend with the old face which wears as grim a smile as ever. True, examinations are an old story, and the abusing of them is an old story, too; still as they are ever returning, and as our thoughts are ever returning to them, it is but fair to see whether the old friend is justly abused, or whether his grim smile is but the mask which hides an honest heart.

What is the examination? What does it do for us? Ask the professor:—

"It is to train the pupil to take a bird's-eye view of what she has been working at piece by piece; it is to encourage the systematic arrangement of thought; it is to enable the instructor to obtain a basis for estimating the grasp which the pupil has gotten of the whole subject of her study."

Ask the scholar:—

"It is a method of finding out how much can be crowded into one's mind in a given space of time; it is a species of inquisition by which excitable, nervous girls are strained to the highest pitch and made unfit for solid thinking, and by which confident, cool-headed girls can make up for past carelessness."

Which is the true definition? Perhaps both,—perhaps neither. Let us look at the examination as we find it at Wellesley. Here we have the week after the Christmas holidays given up to review, and then come the final two weeks for examinations. The atmosphere is heavy and oppressive at this time. On door after door there are huge signs of "Busy," "Please do not knock," "No admittance," and some even dare to parade before the public eye the wicked word "Cramming!" Let us look this wicked word full in the face and find out what it means.

Cramming might be defined as studying in a hurry. It is the transferring from book to brain, in a comparatively short time, of those multitudes of ideas which have slipped out of their proper places, and which *must* be put back where they belong, before the time comes when one out of every thirty, perhaps, will be called out to do service. It is a sort of learning by rote, which, contrary to the opinion of many, helps vastly toward the making of a good examination paper, and which has caused not a few scholars—good, conscientious scholars too—to "thank their lucky stars" they had indulged in it.

Perhaps some would deny that she was a good conscientious scholar who, for the sake of shining in examination, would study in a way which could make no real addition to her knowledge. They would say that a good conscientious scholar would not need to study in this way, and that a "systematic review" is what she would undertake. I think we have all around us living examples to the contrary, and with all due respect to the living examples do I say it. An examination, of course, comprises the fundamental principles of the ground it covers, but it comprises, besides this, hosts and hosts of little side-facts which twine themselves like vines in and out and everywhere along the path, and which even good conscientious scholars do not keep always ready to reel off on demand. Examinations—most examinations—require these to be in readiness, and in some way, then, they must be gotten in readiness. Barely three weeks for five—six—seven examinations may be sufficient time for one way of doing it, but a genuine "systematic review" is an affair not to be confined within these narrow limits. A careful investigation, a complete and thorough grasping of any subject which a half-year examination covers, is a matter of more than a few days work; and when it has only a few days given it, then it becomes what is commonly known as the

"cram." It is often called by other names, but in its essence it is the same.

In fact, it can hardly be denied that, as a general thing, cramming goes hand in hand with examinations. Of course there are exceptions to this, as to every rule. There are brilliant and confident students who know they can get along without it, and so wisely prefer to spend their time in a more agreeable way. There are examinations where cramming is impossible, such as translations at sight,—though a frantic Freshman was once known to have locked herself in her room with her Latin-English lexicon, to learn it by heart, in preparation for the Freshman Latin examination. There are other exceptions also, but there is too much to testify to the truth of the rule to overlook it.

It is indeed hardly fair to judge such an old friend on one ground only, but I have dwelt so long on this, because I think cramming is too often understood to be simply the "Better late than never" of careless students, the hurried making up for past negligence, a word to be spoken in an undertone because meaning duty put aside for a while to be rushed through at the last moment.

There are many pros. and cons. in this question of examinations, reasons which, in the discussion to follow, will be thoroughly dealt with, reasons which I have barely hinted at here. It is only after being looked at from every side that the right or wrong of anything can be decided, yet, looking at this question from one side only, a system which naturally would and undoubtedly does encourage a habit of studying both unscholarly and harmful, must somewhere be wrong. Nevertheless, our old friend may be truly an old friend, despite his faults. Everyone of us knows him well, and everyone of us can give her opinion of him from that knowledge, if she will. If he deserves it, let us welcome him heartily; and if he deserves it, let us condemn him as heartily. Does not our own Alma Mater teach us that "Truth not Victory, is what we seek"?

Cornelia E. Green, '92.

THE *Youth's Companion* for 1891 will contain a series of four articles on "How to choose a college," contributed by Pres. Seth Low of Columbia, Hon. Andrew D. White, Prof. Goldwin Smith, and Pres. Merrill E. Gates of Amherst.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

REV. T. J. Magrath preached in the Chapel, on Sunday, Dec. 13th from the text, 1 Corinthians 1 : 30; "Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification and redemption."

* * *

ON Sunday evening Dec. 13th, a Christmas Vesper service was held in the Chapel. The programme given in the last number of the PRELUDE was carried out. The Glee Club and the Beethoven Society, directed by Prof. Hill, rendered the selections well. Mr. Morse gave as a solo, Gounod's beautiful "Nazareth." The anthems and carols were well chosen, and gave the true Christmas spirit. In the anthem "Holy Christmas Night," Miss Allen's violin accompaniment and Miss Perrin's solo were greatly enjoyed. The motette "O Zion that bringest good tidings," with a duet by Miss Barker and Miss Pullen was especially fine.

* * *

ON Thursday, Dec. 11th, Dr. Lysander Dickerman gave a lecture on "The Language and Literature of the Ancient Egyptians." Dr. Dickerman said that on the banks of the Nile many relics of Egyptian civilization are found. There are those who believe that all that was important toward civilization, left us by other countries, was driven off by the Hellenic influence; others think that all civilization originated in the heights of Armenia; while yet others acknowledge that the high culture on the banks of the Nile was not without its effect upon other nations. The Egyptians were known to the Achainns long before the Trojan war; and before the time of Heroditus, Grecian tradesmen had told their countrymen of the wonders of the Nile. Dr. Dickerman then spoke of the orgin of the alphabet, and the history of the finding of the Rosetti stone in 1832; and the possibilities for translation which resulted. The papyrus, of which the paper then used was made, was a reed-like plant, originally quite abundant on the Nile, but now rarely found. For the writing, which was done in vertical columns, charcoal and manufactured ink were used. The Alexandrian library is believed to have contained seven thousand folios and parchments which were collected during the centuries, not in the reign of one king—not yet of a dozen rulers. The Egyptians' knowledge of science excited the admiration of the Greeks, and many went to Egypt, to study as scholars of the present day go to Germany. Heroditus went first to Egypt from curiosity, and afterward became interested in its history. The historic novel gives us quite a different idea of the Egyptians from the numerous and old paintings; they seem a much more natural people. Of these novels, "The Romance of the Two Brothers" is the best known. These novels usually ended well; for the

idea of justice was so deeply impressed upon the Egyptian mind that no other ending would have been tolerated. "The Book of the Dead," a collection of hymns on future life, is also one of the most celebrated. Egyptian literature, although beginning in a natural and original style, did not continue in the same line; it soon fell under Grecian influence and began to degenerate.

* * *

In the lecture on "Spanish Mediæval Literature," in the course on "Romauce Mediaæval Literature," on Saturday, Dec. 13, Prof. Cohn made the following points. The subject of Spanish literature is very vast, and it is far from being the least interesting of all the Romance languages. As the literature of all other languages began with poetry, so also did the Spanish, and the mass of this poetry, dating back from the Middle Ages, is enormous. It was committed to memory, and not until the Fifteenth century was it written down. Spanish literature did not begin until the Twelfth century, which was one hundred years after the commencement of French literature, and about the same length of time before the Italian. During the Middle Ages no other European nation had so interesting a history as the Spanish. In the Eighth century immense hordes of Moors spread over Spain, crossed the Pyrenees and poured into France as far as the centre, when they were pushed back, almost as quickly, by the iron hand of Charles Martell. It has been said, "Flood-tide brought them in, ebb-tide swept them away." In 1210 the Moors were conquered by the Spanish, and in 1492 the last castle of that race was stormed by Spanish soldiers. These seven hundred years of political excitement gave rise to a very large number of poems, which had for their hero Le Cid. "Le Cid" stands as the lofty and majestic incarnation of Spain, struggling in the Middle Ages for liberty and independence. Cervantes, of the Sixteenth century, author of Don Quixote, was the first to doubt whether there were such a character as Le Cid, but it has since been proved beyond a doubt that Le Cid was not mythical. Le Cid lived in the reign of Ferdinand, and at the death of the king, was twenty-six years old. Then Ferdinand's kingdom was divided among his sons, and as a natural result, civil wars ensued. Le Cid, at the time of these wars, was exiled by Alphonso. Thereupon he formed a band and determined to besiege and conquer Valencia, which he did; this was the greatest victory over the Moors. Le Cid ruled five years in Valencia and it was there he died. The collection of romances, or short narrative poems, of Le Cid numbers about two hundred. As these romances were very interesting, many anonymous writers worked upon them, and by some Le Cid was made to win victories, even after his death. Bernardo del Capio was also another hero around whom were grouped many stories; he, according to Spanish legends, was the conqueror of Rolande in the Pyrenees. Spanish literature is not individual; it represents the habits and life of the whole people and is to the nation as the lyrics of one man are to the life of that man. Poems of adventure and chivalry, borrowed from the Romances of the Round Table, originated in Portugal and were the basis of a great literature, consisting of long and tedious imitations which were killed by Don Quixote.

* * *

The impatient throng of students waiting on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 13, in the dark passages leading to the P. L. R., testified to the interest felt in the present crisis in Ireland. Miss Kendall presented the Irish question so clearly, that those who had been hopelessly entangled in the complications of the question, must now have a good grasp of the subject. There has been an Irish question ever since the Twelfth century. Previous to the Nineteenth century, there was on the side of England causeless aggression, and on the side of Ireland savage rebellion. During the present century there has been blundering legislation in England, and discontent in Ireland. In the Eighteenth Century Dean Swift roused Irish sentiment against English ms-rule. The American Revolution was beneficial to the cause of patriotic Irishmen; the French Revolution was disastrous to Ireland by putting a stop to all reforms. From 1782 to 1800 Ireland had nominal home rule; but reforms made slow progress, and discontent was rife among the Roman Catholics. In 1870 the Home Rule League was formed. Parnell entered Parliament in '75, and in '77 formed the great Land League. 1881 and 1882 saw an important epoch in the question. Parnell was in prison and the English leaders were preparing to carry out Parnell's plans. In 1885 the crisis turned on the new Franchise Bill, which gave Ireland a chance to speak in Parliament for home rule. In 1886 Gladstone introduced the Home Rule Bill which was defeated. It seemed probable four weeks ago that the Irish question would shortly be satisfactorily solved. Gladstone recently intimated that, unless Parnell retired, he himself must give up the leadership of the Liberal party; Parnell retaliated by a manifesto. A split has taken place in the Parnellite party. It is impossible to predict the turn affairs may take, but it is not unlikely that the Conservatives may "dish" the Liberals by supporting local government for Ireland. At the close of the lecture photographs of the great Irish leaders were on exhibition.

* * *

The regular meeting of the Shakespeare Society was held on Saturday evening, December thirteenth, at seven o'clock, in the Art Library. The following program was carried out:—

Study of Shakespeare's Wits (continued.)

Shakespeare News, Miss Thorn.
Essay:—Variety of Wit in Shakespeare's Character, a Result of the Individuality of the Wit, Miss M. Spalding.
Impersonation, Miss Hodgkins.
Text Study—Much Ado About Nothing, Act II. Sc. 1 Conducted by Miss Webster.
Dramatic Representation.
As You Like It. Act IV. Sc. 1.
Rosalind, Miss Look.
Celia, Miss Glover.
Orlando, Miss Newman.
Jacques, Miss Freeman.

The two questions taken up in general discussion were: Why has Shakespeare so many witty characters? What is the difference between the witty characters and the fools?

* * *

ONE would hardly have recognized our old gymnasium had she seen it on Monday, Dec. 15th, and not been told that it was the realm of the immortal '92, awaiting a brief visit from the mortals of Wellesley's Faculty and class of '94. Fairyland it certainly was, as much as cornhusks and other emblems of that happy place could make it.

'92 was fortunate enough to have on exhibition some of the remarkable things of which we have so often read. Jack's beanstalk was there, together with Cinderella's slipper. The "Bottles of Life and Death," not unfamiliar to many of us, and "Undine's Bracelet, (kindly loaned from the drawer in the office)" were, with the "Book of Doom," a section book, of great interest. But the one that most appealed to us at this time, was Cinderella's coach, driven by death. "Tickets limited and not transferable, $20 to students, $100 with baggage, (signed) A. Bailey."

At one end of this fairy hall sat the fairy queen on her throne, and at her right hand was Her Majesty's favorite, Clover Blossom. Every mortal who entered this aerial abode must kneel at the foot of the throne, and kiss the hand of this fairy queen. For mortals this tribute was, as a rule, very gracefully paid, but the courage of some failed at the very foot of her throne.

After this ceremony, seats, such as fairies use, were provided for the guests and they listened to the court bard, who related the story of the little Changeling, and they saw the story pictured before them. They learned how this little Changeling wandering through the meadows, happy and unconscious of all else in the world, save flowers and beauty and joy, is suddenly met by the spirit of Wellesley and enticed by her to spend four years at her happy realm. The bard tells us that the "spirit of the institution" is "behind the times," but nevertheless the little Changeling, perhaps hoping for the best, follows her until she is menaced by the fiend Examinations. In vain the good fairies Heliotrope, Fern, Clover and Pansy try to rescue her from this fiend and his companions, but she herself succeeds in so completely overcoming Mathematics, Chemistry, Gymnastics and even Elocution that they entirely collapse and are obliged to be helped off the scene. The final victory is left to Matriculation who snatches the little Changeling from the arms of Examinations and claims her for his own.

Perhaps the most attractive features of the afternoon were the dances of the fairies and the fiends. The former, graceful, pretty, in perfect harmony, and the latter, the ideal dance of fiends; urged on by Pantaloon, who reprcrented the Faculty, these fiends, Mathematics, Chemistry, Gymnastics and Elocution, executed a sort of war dance, which, in the colored light, was truly effective. One word must be said of the costumes, which gave life and beauty to the whole scene. They were of cheese-cloth or paper, and the colors and combinations being selected with admirable taste, produced many beautiful effects. This was especially true of the costumes of the class officers which were green and gold.

Before going home the guests were invited to partake of the etherial pumpkin pies and popped corn, which however proved very substantial. Dancing, the usual and delightful ending to all such revelries was not omitted on this occasion, and many are the mortals who can boast of having danced with a fairy at least once in their lives.

COLLEGE NOTES.

REV. A. E. Winship, of Boston, will preach in the Chapel tomorrow.

MISS Rosa Dean, '90, Miss Florence Soule, '89, and Miss Alice Hamlin, formerly Special at Wellesley, spent Sunday, December fourteenth, the last Sunday before vacation, at Wood Cottage. Miss Hamlin was present at the Shakespeare meeting on Saturday evening. Miss Mary Barrows, '90, spent Sunday in the village, and Miss Lena Brown, '90, was at Waban.

THE Shakespeare Society received, at its last meeting, December thirteenth, three new members:—Miss Agnes Holbrook, '92; Miss Elizabeth White, '93; and Miss Jean Evans, Sp.

PHI SIGMA, at its last meeting, November twenty-ninth, initiated Miss Josephine Simrall, '93.

THE new members of the Art Society are:—Miss Helen Rogers, '92; Miss Mary Marot, '94; Miss Grace Jewett and Miss Elizabeth Morse, Sp.

THOSE who have joined the Microscopical Society this year are as follows:—Miss Patterson, '92; Miss Mary L. Brown, Miss Anna Burgess and Miss Louise Edwards, '93; Miss Abell, '94; Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Newton, Miss Mina Stockbridge, Miss Morse and Miss Grace Foster, Sp.

ZETA ALPHA has gotten out a neat little book of programs for this year's work. It is bound in white, with the letters Zeta Alpha, in blue, on the cover. Inside, the programs for each meeting, and the list of present and honorary members and Alumnæ, are printed also in the Zeta Alpha blue. The whole thing is very artistic, and gotten up in a unique way. The line of work of the society for this year is, in general. "Our Country and Our Times." The first semester is occupied with the discussion of subjects of interest which have an influence on the life and thought of our Country: such as Recent Legislation in Congress, Periodical Literature, American Humor. The second semester's study is the special lines of work in our times; such as Medicine, Politics, Art.

ALL the class bulletin boards are now in their proper places. The Sophomore bulletin board is at the second floor centre, near room E. The Freshmen have chosen the third floor centre for theirs, and that of the Specials is by the reading-room door.

THE Students' Association is steadily growing in numbers. Nine joined last month, and there are now seventy-nine members.

THE vacancy on the Board of Editors of the '91 Legenda, caused by the resignation of Miss Elizabeth Wardwell, has been filled by the election of Miss Myrtilla Avery.

WILL those who wish to become members of the Record Association, those who wish to order the next copy, which will be out before June, and those who know recent addresses of former Specials at Wellesley, —will all these please leave their names, with what they desire to state, in a box in the General Office placed there for that purpose.

SOME of the Seniors have gotten up a fencing class, —the first private fencing class which Wellesley has had. It will meet Thursday afternoons from four o'clock until quarter of five, and Miss Hill will give it especial direction and instruction. The class numbers twenty in all. It will simply be hard drill at first, but, later, fencing for sport will be the object in view.

ON Monday, December fifteenth, Mrs. Palmer invited the Senior Class to a reception at her house in Cambridge. Two horse-cars were chartered for the seventy or more members of the class who could accept her kind invitation. Mrs. Palmer entertained "her Freshmen," as she calls them, in her own gracious way, and for two hours made them one and all most heartily welcome. She herself received in the parlor, and Mrs. Arthur Claflin and Miss Moore presided in the dining-room. Miss Bertha Palmer, niece of Prof. Palmer, and President of the Senior Class, also helped in entertaining the guests. Among these were Mrs. H. B. Goodwin, Dr. and Mrs Mackenzie, Mrs. George Claflin, Miss Horsford, Mrs. Marion Pelton Guild, Dr. N. G. Clark and his daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dana, Dr. Peabody and Colonel Higginson.

MISS Noyes, instructor in Logic, will be unable to return to College until the day of the Logic examination, on account of her severe cold. During her absence, Prof. Palmer will give her classes three lectures on Induction. They will be given on Friday evening, the ninth, and on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, the thirteenth and fourteenth.

A NEW course in the History of Greek Sculpture will be offered for the coming semester. The topics considered will be as follows:—I. The earliest sculptured remains on Greek soil. II. Fully identified monuments and well confirmed facts, followed chronologically, and the "Golden Age of Art of Greece." III. The architecture of the temple as a preparation for the study of the different pediment groups. IV. The age of Phidias, of Scopas, and of Praxiteles. V. Examples of myths and of types. VI. The period of the decline, and Graeco-Roman Art.

TWO hundred and thirty-two dollars have been sent to Miss Judson in Japan, as the result of the Japanese Bazaar. Miss Judson's expenses must be deducted from this,—they will be, as nearly as can be judged at present, about eighty dollars. The amount remaining will be used to start a fund for rescuing little Japanese waifs. The thanks of all interested in the Bazaar are are due to Messrs. N. M. Hatch and George E. Crawley, of Boston, who were kind enough to put such low prices on their goods as to enable them to be sold at great advantage at the Bazaar.

MISS Gertrude Chandler, Wellesley's missionary to India, will give an entertainment on March sixteenth, the proceeds of which are to be divided between the Norumbega fund and the Epileptic Hospital at Baldwinsville. The entertainment will consist of scenes in a woman's life in India, representing her betrothal, when an infant, her married life and widowhood. The costumes will be genuine Indian costumes, and the singing will be in the Marathi and Tamil dialect.

AULD ACQUAINTANCE.

Miss Helen J. Sanborn, '84, has recently been elected member of the school board of Somerville, Mass. Her election is a matter for congratulation, as there is but one other lady on the board, and up to this time, there has been great opposition to a woman's holding the place.

Miss Mary E. Whipple, '79, met with a serious accident dnring the Christmas vacation. She fell on a slippery sidewalk in Worcester, dislocating her ankle and breaking a leg. It is feared that she will not be able to be out for several weeks.

Miss Mary Yardley, '90, is teaching in the school of Miss Julia R. Tutwiler, No. 16, East Mt. Vernon Place, Baltimore.

Miss Louise B. Swift, '90, has accepted a position in the Detroit High School.

Miss Ida C. Brigham, student at Wellesley '88-'90, has been made principal of the Grammar School in South Coventry, Conn.

Dr. Mary Chase Kirkland, '84, delivered two very interesting and instructive lectures on Hygiene before the students of Northfield Seminary, during the last part of the fall term.

Miss Isabel Sinclair, '90, is studying designing in New York City.

Miss Marie L. Date, student at Wellesley, '88-'89, is studying architecture in Cleveland, Ohio.

Miss Lena Brown, '90, has resigned her position in Natick to accept one in the Woburn High School.

Miss Mary McLean, formerly of '92, is teaching in West Troy, N. Y.

Miss Susan G. Fuller, student at Wellesley '88-'86, is studying in the School of Expression in Boston, from which she expects to graduate this year.

Miss May L. Parker, student at Wellesley '88-'89, is teaching in Stockton Academy, Stockton, Kansas.

Mrs. Winifred Edgerton Merrill, '83, has removed to Albany, Mr Merrill having been appointed Assistant State Geologist of New York, with the added title of Assistant Director of Museum of Natural History.

The classmates and friends of Mrs. Emma Smith Peters, '87, will sympathize with her in the loss of her husband, who died Nov. 29, at De Land, Florida.

Miss Elizabeth Jones, student at Wellesley, '88-'89, is teaching in Durham, N. H., and Miss Grace Cook, who was in college at the same time, is teaching at Freehold, N. J.

Miss Elizabeth Jones, student at Wellesley '88-'89, is teaching in Durham, N. H.

Mrs. Jennie Hill March, student at Wellesley '79-'80, gave the address at the monthly meeting of the Dana Hall Missionary Society, Sunday, Dec. 7. Mrs. March is spending the year in this country after ten years of mission work in Syria, and will return next summer to Tripoli, in that country, where her hnsband has been stationed for some time.

Mrs. Mary Sheldon Barnes, the first professor of History at Wellesley, and her husband, who is now Professor of History in the State University of Indiana, spent the week ending Dec. 25 in Boston and Cambridge. Saturday morning, Dec. 20, Mrs. Barnes gave a talk on "Method in History," to the Boston teachers. Even at that busy season about fifty men and women were present, and proved an interested and sympathetic audience. At the close of her address, many questions were asked her by the teachers. The formal meeting, address, and discussion lasted an hour and a half. Several Wellesley Alumnae were present, rejoicing in the opportunity of seeing and hearing their old teacher once more. Mrs. Barnes' first book on "General History," has found very favorable acceptance. Her publishers, Heath & Co., will be glad to furnish little pamphlets of explanation about it to any who are interested. Her second book on "American History" will soon be out.

BORN.

At Milford, Mass., Aug. 10, a daughter, Mildred, to Mrs. Mary Jenckes Cook, '81.

At Medway, Mass., Nov. 19, a son, Bradford Jenckes, to Mrs. Florence Jenckes Spencer, student at Wellesley, '80-'81.

At Marysville, California, Dec. 4, a daughter, Margaret, to Mrs. Margaret Greely Powell, student at Wellesley, '80-'82.

MARRIED.

Payne–Potter—At Glen's Falls, N. Y., Nov. 26, Sarah M. Potter, '84, to Dr. Howard Payne of Albany.

Gulick–Farnsworth—At Westborough, Mass., Dec. 2, Harriet M. Farnsworth, '87, to Rev. E. L. Gulick of Groton.

Crocker–Weyman—At the Hotel Vendome, Boston Dec. 2, Helen E. Weyman, student at Dana Hall, '81-'85, to George Herbert Crocker of Fitchburg, Mass.

Walton–Brooks—At Williamsport, Pa., Cora Olive Brooks, student at Wellesley, '83-'84, to Lucius Leydon Walton of Danbury, Conn.

Lathrop–Emerson—At Rockford, Ill., Dec. 20, Mary Emerson, student at Wellesley '80-'83, to Edward Potter Lathrop of Rockford.

INTER-COLLEGIATE NEWS.

THE vacations in American colleges are shorter than in England and Scotland.

THE class colors of the freshmen at Smith college are crimson and white.

SINCE 1806, 30 different publications have been started at Yale.

ARGENTINE Republic has two government universities which are said to rank with Harvard and Yale.

CORNELL has more Greek letter fraternities than any other college.

ABOUT 4,000 of the 65,000 students in American colleges are preparing for the ministry.

FOOT ball in any form has been strictly prohibited by the anthorities of the University of Heidelberg, Germany.—*Ex.*

IN the village of Strobeck, Russia, the pupils in the highest grade in the schools are obliged to pass a yearly examination in chess.

A YALE Alumni Association is being formed at Tokio, Japan. There are a large number of graduates in that place.

THE formal inauguration of President Gates, of Amherst, has been postponed until commencement week. President Seelye has refused to remain a member of the Amherst faculty, but will lecture occasionally.

A MOVEMENT is on foot to hold an intercollegiate regatta on Lake George next summer to be open to all colleges except Harvard and Yale.—*The Daily Crimson.*

FOR the first time the University of Leipsic will this season admit women. So far six women have registered, four of whom are Americans.

AN effort is being made to raise a subscription for the erection of a gymnasium at the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, Mich. This University has over 2,000 students, and as yet has no gymnasium.

A meeting of the Detroit branch of the Inter-collegiate Alumnae Association was held in Detroit, at Hotel Cardillac, Saturday, Nov. 8. Dinner was served at the hotel, and in the afternoon, there were literary exercises of an interesting character. Graduates from Michigan University, Vassar, Oberlin, Wellesley and many others, were present at the meeting. Mrs. McGrau of Detroit, is president of the Detroit branch of the Association.

KISS ME TWO.

They sat in a curtain-hung recess,
With no other one near by,
Save one of her little nieces,
Too young to be thought a spy.

We sat round the open fire,
The lulls in our talk were few;
But once when our speech chanced to tire,
We heard: "Aunty kiss me too."

Rare presence of mind was made use of,
For in tones that were guileless and nice:
"'Kiss me *two*' is not right, little nuisance,
You would properly say, kiss me *twice*,"

—*Bowdoin Orient.*

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